



State of Tennessee
Department of State
Tennessee State Library and Archives
403 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

**ERNEST N. HASTON
PAPERS
1898-1956, bulk 1904-1943**

Processed by:

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INTRODUCTION

This collection consists of items related to the life of Ernest N. Haston of Spencer, Van Buren County, Tennessee. Ernest N. Haston served in a variety of capacities during his life, including being a federal income tax collector, serving in the Tennessee Senate, serving as the Secretary of State for the State of Tennessee for the period 1921-1937, Executive Director of the Tennessee Democratic Party, an attorney, and as an elector for Franklin D. Roosevelt. In addition to his professional career, Haston also enjoyed writing poetry under his pen name "Nathan." Several poems written by Mr. Haston are included in the scrapbooks in this collection. The poems in this collection that were written by "Nathan" (Ernest Haston) have never been published. Permission of the donor of this collection is required before this material can be published in any publication.

The collection is arranged in alphabetical order by type of material. Original order was not able to be determined due to prior work on this collection.

The Ernest N. Haston Papers were donated to the Library and Archives by Mrs. Thomas O. H. Smith.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of items related the life of Ernest N. Haston, including certificates, correspondence, newspaper clippings, a news release, printed materials, programs, photographs, and scrapbooks. The collection spans the period 1898-1965, though the bulk of the materials spans the period 1904 - 1943.

There is a very limited amount of materials available on Ernest Haston, so this collection is very important for information on the life of Ernest Haston. Of particular interest in this collection are the scrapbooks, which include a variety of types of materials about Haston's life and varied careers.

There are twelve photographs in the Ernest N. Haston Papers. Six of the photographs are of Ernest Haston and appear to date from his tenure as Tennessee's Secretary of State (1921-1937). Four of the photographs are of Ernest Haston and his family. One photograph is of an unidentified woman and one photograph is of the bronze statue of Andrew Jackson in the Rotunda of the U. S. Capitol. All of the photographs have been scanned and entered into the photograph database.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

- 1877 March 26, born in Van Buren County, Tennessee, son of George W. and Sarah (Shockley) Haston
- 1899 Graduated from Burritt College, Spencer, Van Buren County, Tennessee.
Served as a “motorman” on a street car on the Oak Street Line, Chattanooga, Tennessee
Served as a school teacher in Van Buren County, Tennessee
- 1902 Admitted to the bar as an attorney in Tennessee. Began legal practice in Spencer, Tennessee
- 1902 - 1906 Becomes Superintendent of Schools for Van Buren County, Tennessee.
- 1904 July 20, Marries Vollie Kathleen Sparkman in Nashville, Davidson County, Tennessee
- 1906 - 1914 Elected County Court Clerk of Van Buren County. Served until resignation
- 1908 Delegate to the National Democratic Convention
- 1912 Presidential elector for the Democratic ticket of Woodrow Wilson and Thomas Marshall. Publisher of the *Spencer Times*
- 1914 - 1916 Becomes first state revenue agent under the federal income tax law.
- 1916 - 1921 Elected to the Tennessee Senate. Served in the 60th and 61st General Assemblies.
- 1918-1930 Member of the Democratic Executive Committee, served three terms as chairman.
- 1921 - 1937 Elected Tennessee Secretary of State by the 62nd Tennessee General Assembly
- 1931-1933 Served as President of National Association of Secretaries of State
- 1937 Upon leaving office of Secretary of State, resumes law practice in Nashville, Tennessee
- 1953 Retired from the practice of Law
- 1956 May 19, died in Nashville, Tennessee. Buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery

ORGANIZATIONS

Member of Church of Christ
Free and Accepted Masons, Order of the Mystic Shrine
Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks
Modern Woodmen of America
Gamma Eta Gamma Legal Fraternity
American Bar Association
Tennessee Bar Association
Nashville Bar Association

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

1. Certificates-- Democratic National Committee, E.N. Haston, 1928
2. Certificates-- Fort Donelson House Historical Society, Ernest N. Haston, 1928
3. Certificates-- Marriage, Ernest N. Haston to Vollie Kathleen Sparkman, 1904
4. Certificates-- National Association of Secretaries of State, Ernest N. Haston, 1931-1933
5. Certificates-- Secretary of State, E.N. Haston
6. Certificates-- Tennessee Public Schools, Certificate of Qualifications, E.N. Haston, 1904
7. Certificates-- Woodrow Wilson Foundation, Ernest N. Haston, 1922
8. Correspondence-- Julius E. Curley (Nashville Lodge No. 72, BPO Elks) to Ernest Haston, 1955
9. Correspondence-- Ernest N. Haston to Cordell Hull, 1932
10. Correspondence-- Ernest N. Haston to Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1932
11. Correspondence-- Ernest N. Haston to Senator John K. Shields, 1918
12. Correspondence-- T.S. Stewart to Ernest [Haston], 1939 (From Scrapbook #2)
13. Correspondence-- TN [Tennessee] Power Company, 1924 (From Scrapbook #2)
14. Newspaper Clippings-- "Bachman Pays Equalizers Visit" and "Wreck Sent Haston Back Home to Teaching Post and Politics", n.d.
15. Newspaper Clippings-- Death of Ernest N. Haston, 1956
16. Newspaper Clippings-- Ernest N. Haston Nominated Secretary of State, 1933
17. Newspaper Clippings-- "Haston Sees United Party in Tennessee"
18. Newspaper Clippings-- Haston-Sparkman Wedding, 1904
19. Newspaper Clippings-- "Many Responsibilities of Secretary's Office Known to Few in State", June 19, 1936
20. Newspaper Clippings-- "Off for Houston", July 8, 1928
21. Newspaper Clippings-- "Rumorist Club Amused", January 20, 1933
22. Newspaper Clippings-- "The First Lieutenant of Honesty" and "One Man Can Hang the Jury", n.d.
23. Newspaper Clippings-- "The Party Organ", n.d.
24. News Release-- "Community Chest Drive" in Nashville, n.d.
25. Post Card—"Treasury Street, St. Augustine, Fla." (From Scrapbook #2)
26. Printed Materials-- "How to Value Character". n.d.
27. Printed Materials-- The Peabody Reflector and Alumni News, "Work", by President Bruce R. Payne, n.d.
28. Programs-- Dedication of the War Memorial Building, n.d.

Box 2

1. Photographs-- Ernest N. Haston walking up Capitol steps, Nashville, ca. 1930s
2. Photographs-- Ernest N. Haston signing papers in his office, Nashville, ca. 1930s
3. Photographs-- Ernest N. Haston sitting at his desk, Nashville, ca. 1920s
4. Photographs-- Ernest N. Haston and family, Spencer, Tennessee, ca. 1910
5. Photographs-- Ernest N. Haston and family, Nashville, ca. 1910
6. Photographs-- Ernest N. Haston in his office, Nashville, ca. 1923
7. Photographs-- Ernest N. Haston in his office, Nashville, ca. 1923
8. Photographs-- Ernest N. Haston wearing Elk's hat, ca. 1930s
9. Photographs-- Unidentified woman in white dress, ca. 1910
10. Photographs-- Evelyn Haston, ca. 1930s
11. Photographs-- Evelyn Haston, ca. 1950s
12. Photographs-- Bronze statue of Andrew Jackson in Rotunda of U. S. Capitol, 1928

Box 3

1. Scrapbook-- Newspaper Clippings, 1926
2. Scrapbook-- Poetry, Newspaper Clippings, Correspondence, Photographs, 1898-1940
3. Scrapbook-- Poetry, Newspaper Clippings, Correspondence, 1912-1943